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May 2, 2012

His Excellency Yousef Raza Gilani
Prime Minister
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Dear Prime Minister Gilani,

Over the weekend the US Congress was again reminded of the violent and volatile political situation in Baluchistan that has been perpetuated by years of misrule from Islamabad. The media reported that on Saturday four men were killed by "unprovoked and indiscriminate" gun fire from Pakistani police during a house raid in Baluchistan. This is yet another example in a seemingly never ending line of state sponsored violence targeting the Baluchi people.

It is becoming increasingly clear to Members of the US Congress that Pakistan is a failed state and that no amount of US aid money will ever change that. As the United States withdraws its troops from Afghanistan, Pakistan's leverage over the United States will significantly diminish. American aid money for Pakistan will dry up. It is clear that the Pakistani military and intelligence services have for years diverted money intended to help the people of Baluchistan, and the other provinces of Pakistan, into funding terrorism and buying weapons to repress their own people.

Pakistan's future will remain bleak and marred by political violence as long as the Pakistani government and military continue to deny ethnic groups within Pakistan a right to self determination. I have long held India to this same standard as well. The Baluch people have a right to choose their own political structure and America will no longer play a willing role in helping your government to oppress them.

Sincerely,

Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress